



CITY OF LONG BEACH
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS, RECREATION AND MARINE
COMMISSION ON YOUTH AND CHILDREN
MINUTES
June 23, 2004

I. CALL TO ORDER

Rebecca Turrentine, Chair, called the meeting of the Commission on Youth and Children to order at 5:03 p.m., in the large conference room at the Parks, Recreation and Marine Senior Center. Roll call was taken and a quorum was confirmed.

Present:

Rebecca Turrentine, Chair
Pierre Batton, Vice-Chair

Gregory Corbin
Fabian Gonzalez
Jeanetta McAlpin
Jon Meyer
Alexis Peterson
Lauren Perry
Jessica Quintana

Marc Rothenberg
Mary Soth
Chanel Soares
Chelsii Summerville
Christopher Young

Absent:

Sotheara Chhay (excused) Jennifer To
Helen Ingram (excused)
Elijah Kemp-Bowdre (excused)
Kate Levenstein

Staff:

Cynthia Fogg, Superintendent, Department of Parks, Recreation and Marine
Andrew Romero, Youth Specialist, Department of Parks, Recreation and Marine
Nathan Esparza, Department of Parks, Recreation and Marine
Phil T. Hester, Director, Department of Parks, Recreation and Marine

Guests:

Maisie Chin, LA Youth Engagement Taskforce/Praxis Consulting
Peggy Preacely, Department of Health and Human Services, Tobacco Education
Matt Rosen, Youth Leadership Institute

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Commissioner Meyer and seconded by Commissioner Batton to approve the May 26, 2004 Commission on Youth and Children minutes with the correction that Commissioner Lauren Perry was present. The motion carried unanimously.

III. COMMENTS (PUBLIC) 3-minute limit

There were no public comments.

IV. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT TO THE COMMISSION

CYC administrative issues update:

Cynthia Fogg distributed the 700 forms to be filled out by commissioners. The Code of Ethics document was also handed out for all commissioners to sign and return to the city clerk. All boards and commissions are required to sign this document. Ms. Fogg also distributed the new Commission roster with the addition of the two newly appointed commissioners, Fabian Gonzalez and Helen Ingram. A breakdown of the commissioners by council districts was given to each member along with the new e-mail list.

Ms. Fogg reported on the beginning of the Summer Food service program that began on June 21 and will continue until August 20, 2004. This program provides free lunches at designated areas for the youth and children of that neighborhood. The official flyer was given to each commissioner so if anyone of them is asked about this program, they will have the information on it. Ms. Fogg also distributed the flyers for the Summer Mobile Recreation program schedule, which began operations on June 21 and will be ongoing until August 27. The Health Department's Infant and Children's program information was provided to the commission as well.

Keeping Youth Safe – June 3 Statewide Dialogue on Preventing Youth Violence Recap:

Cynthia Fogg reported that the event was well attended with 88 people there, including Commissioners Rothenberg, Quintana, Meyer and Chair Turrentine. Commission Chair Rebecca Turrentine gave opening remarks and the event opened with a video and materials from the Choices for Youth organization. They seemed very supportive of the efforts of our city's Youth and Gang Violence Task Force. Commissioner Quintana stated she was very impressed with the event.

V. REPORTS

a. Committees

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, Commissioner Turrentine, Chair (June 8th meeting)

The committee was responsible for the development of the Agenda for the Commission on Youth and Children's meeting. They also discussed the issue of By-Laws for the commission. Chair Turrentine asked her fellow commissioners for ideas and suggestions on the implementation of By-Laws for the Commission on Youth and Children. This will be discussed at the next Executive Committee meeting in July and a first draft will be submitted to the full commission at the July CYC meeting for discussion and comments. The issue of publicity and media for the commission was also discussed and how to highlight the commission's work. When Vice-Mayor Frank

Colonna interviewed Cynthia Fogg, Commissioner Soares and Chair Turrentine for the local access cable show, "Heart of the City", he gave an opportunity to Commissioner Soares to make a public service announcement about the Commission and about the District Level Youth Advisory Councils. She did a wonderful job and it was a great opportunity to have a presence on cable TV. This led to more discussion about our youth commissioners having better opportunities to speak on the actions of both the CYC and the DLYAC on our local cable channels. Chair Turrentine attended the city's budget workshop before the city council meeting to clarify the current budget status. Suzanne Mason, Deputy City Manager, is scheduled to return next month to give us an update of the budget issues facing the city. Chair Turrentine stated that she, along with Commissioner Chhay, Andrew Romero and Cynthia Fogg, attended the city council meeting to acknowledge and thank the generations of funding for our city around 21 Century community monies. They also acknowledged the individuals who went to Sacramento to advocate on behalf of the city's efforts for this funding.

REPORT CARD COMMITTEE Commissioner Corbin, Committee Chair
(June 2nd meeting)

The committee had a guest, Becky Nathal, Data Manager, L.A. County Children's Planning Council, stated she would provide data for our indicators and specifically the Long Beach area. She encouraged the committee to work with her on the sharing of information. Commissioner Corbin stated that a template has been adopted and all committee members have a copy of it to begin the process of making changes and contributions in red ink and forward to Cynthia Fogg's office. Ms. Fogg stated that a graduate student recommended by Cal State Long Beach faculty is under consideration to work on the Report Card. Her duties will include the compiling of data and producing a draft of the Report Card. Ms. Fogg commented on the data brought forth by the LACCPC that was Long Beach specific, including school information and safety and survival data and thanked them for this information. Commissioner Corbin reports that the Report Card is on track and moving forward in its mission. The committee would like to send out correspondence to the Long Beach Police Department, Long Beach City College and the Department of Health and Human Services to ask for their involvement and participation on the Report Card. Ms. Fogg had a correction to the letter.

It was moved by Commissioner Corbin, seconded by Commissioner Soth to approve the letters to the Long Beach Police Department, Long Beach City College and the The Department of Health and Human Services asking for their involvement and support on the planning and development of the Report Card. The motion carried unanimously.

Chair Turrentine commented on the committee's efforts on the Report Card. She stated the draft brought forth by Commissioner Corbin is first step for the Commission to have an opportunity for dialogue on the final product of the Report Card. Ms. Turrentine is grateful to the committee and its Chairman, Commissioner Corbin, for the process by which the Report Card is being compiled, researched and drafted for the CYC.

Ms. Fogg informed the CYC that the letter sent to LBUSD Superintendent, Chris Steinhauser, asking for his support and participation has had no response to the request. Commissioner Meyer stated he would contact Mr. Steinhauser regarding the letter. Commissioner Saures could also contact Superintendent Steinhauser regarding the request.

b. Standing Items

I. Education and Youth Strategic Plan

No report for this meeting

II. District Level Youth Advisory Councils

a. Report on June DLYAC meetings.

Andrew Romero reported on the following schedules for the District Level Youth Advisory Councils.

<i>District 1</i>	Next meeting in September
<i>District 2</i>	Pending; Mr. Romero is in talks to hold a meeting within the next few weeks.
<i>District 3</i>	Monday, June 28, 2004 at the Conservation Corps offices at 11 a.m.
<i>District 4</i>	Pending; there is a new council member and we will be contacting their new staff person to schedule the next meeting.
<i>District 5</i>	Mr. Romero will be meeting with Tim Patton to begin the meetings of this district. There was some reservation regarding the effort to get local youth to be involved in this due to the summer. He thanked Commissioner Soth for her help with this effort.
<i>District 6</i>	Meeting was postponed. Chair Turrentine wishes to attend this meeting.
<i>District 7</i>	Commissioner Gonzalez attended this meeting and they discussed ways to fundraise. The council decided to have a club-style party and will be seeking out businesses to sponsor this event. The tree-planting project was discussed and is moving forward.
<i>District 8</i>	Due to the election of a new council member, we are going to seek out the liaison with the new office and discuss ways to implement the district youth council.
<i>District 9</i>	They meet on June 17 and one of the main topics was the joint venture with the 7 th District Youth Council on the Alley Clean-up project. The grand opening of the new skate park at Houghton Park will be an opportunity for the youth council to seek out new membership and distribute their survey. They are currently putting the final draft together and if the CYC have any questions

they would liked asked on the survey, they would put those additional questions as a part of the overall survey.

Commissioner Quintana is acquainted with the new council member in the 8th District and is willing to help with any contacts for the CYC. Mr. Romero requested the name of the new person in charge of the DLYAC for that district.

Cynthia Fogg requested a recommendation that members of the CYC from the 2nd District be a part of the planning of the 2nd District DLYAC and also other meetings with the new council members. Chair Turrentine encouraged the CYC to continue attending these and other meetings with our youth and adult members to support them in their endeavors.

It was moved by Commissioner Soth and seconded by Commissioner Peterson to receive and file the upcoming meeting schedules for the District Level Youth Advisory Councils.

Discussion:

Commissioner Young praised the efforts of CYC members and city staff for their diligence of creating and maintaining the DLYAC.

The motion carried unanimously.

b. DLYAC Joint Meeting

Cynthia Fogg requested a joint meeting between the youth members of the Commission on Youth and Children and the staff liaison from each council member. The topic of discussion will be the direction that all of the DLYAC wish to pursue and how best to achieve their goals.

It was moved by Commissioner Rothenberg and seconded by Commissioner Gonzalez to approve a joint meeting between the youth members of the CYC and staff members from each council district. The motion carried unanimously.

III. Youth and Gang Violence Task Force

Commissioner Rothenberg reported the Youth and Gang Violence Task Force meet on Monday , June 14, 2004. The YGVTF had a facilitator to help its membership focus the direction of the goals they want to advance and ease the frustration many of the members felt about the lack of action from the task force. The YGVTF set up five action committees that dealt with the following issues:

- ***Media*** – This committee will solicit support from the local media regarding the YGVTF and its actions.

- **Jobs** – This committee will support local youth in securing positions with businesses to prevent them from entering into gangs or gang-related activity.
- **Parenting** – Provide youths with information and resources on support agencies that help young parents.
- **Grants Research** – The members will be pursuing grant monies to help the YGVTF with its efforts on behalf of the youth and children in Long Beach.
- **Youth Development** – The committee is responsible for engaging youth to be involved with the task force and its goals. Commissioners Rothenberg and Kemp-Bowdre are members of this committee, with Commissioner Kemp-Bowdre representing the youth. They plan to involve other agencies including LBUSD and work with the school's conflict managers and start engaging with children as young as those in kindergarten. The committee is working with Congresswoman Linda Sanchez and her efforts regarding the Bullying Legislation.

The committee is still seeking a Chairman and Vice-Chairman so that they may begin the actual pursuits and goals of the Youth and Gang Violence Task Force. Commissioner Rothenberg was very pleased with the progress the YGVTF is making and looks forward to reporting on its future meetings. Commissioner McAlpin had concerns about duplication of services and agencies that are providing them and the economic impact. Commissioner Rothenberg stated that is why the action committees were created to collaborate with other agencies and programs. The committee will outreach to them and become more efficient. Commissioner Young commented on the efforts of the YGVTF and looks forward to future reports. Commissioner Rothenberg stated that the task force would begin having events, like a town hall meeting, due to the recent focus of strategy and direction. The Resource committee is organizing the task force to better implement the actions taken by the YGVTF. Commissioner Quintana was present at the meeting as well and remarked on Commissioner Young's comments and stated that the task force was moving in the right direction.

It was moved by Commissioner Quintana and seconded by Commissioner Young to approve the draft discussion guide for use at District Level Youth Advisory meetings to solicit feedback on violence, violence prevention, and youth members' opinions on the process of the community's efforts to reduce youth and gang violence.

Discussion:

Cynthia Fogg explained the need for this guide and the supporting documentation for its use with the DLYAC. She recommended that there be a timeline regarding completion of the guide. Commissioner Rothenberg stated that this should be completed by the August meeting and be discussed by the Commission on Youth and Children before being sent to the Youth and Gang Violence Task Force. Commissioner Perry requested that council districts that do not have a DLYAC established could go into the community and get input from local youth. The CYC agreed that course of action would be appropriate as long as we verify where the feedback came from. Cynthia Fogg suggested that would be an excellent opportunity to speak with your council member to encourage them to form a DLYAC. Commissioner McAlpin suggested that the CYC form an ad-hoc committee to come up with new questions. She stated that we have asked the

same questions for many years. Ms. Fogg responded that this is not a survey, but a guide that would help the DLYAC. Commissioner McAlpin is concerned that we are not in tune with the youth of today. Commissioner Quintana asked the youth members of the CYC if the guide was appropriate for today's youth. Commissioner Perry commented she has taken a similar survey before. Commissioner Rothenberg believes that this is not a survey but a tool for the youth councils to have talking points in regards to what youths feel is important to them. Ms. Fogg clarified that the questions were from the CORAL Youth Institute and from the Choices for Youth organization. They were responsible for the statewide dialogue on violence prevention. The CORAL Youth Institute went to local high schools and collected data from this survey. The main purpose is to outreach to get feedback regarding these issues.

The motion carried unanimously.

REPORTS

Tobacco Issues for Long Beach— Peggy Preacely of the Department of Health and Human Services presented a report on the efforts in Long Beach on the issues of tobacco. There are two leading policies that the Health Department is advocating for; making the beach a non-smoking zone and have businesses that sell tobacco and tobacco related products to have a Tobacco Retail License. With this license, the city will be able to track the businesses that sell these products and will be able to enforce compliance with the law that requires a person buying tobacco must be at least 18 years of age. The idea of making the beach a non-smoking zone is part of a statewide effort by many cities with a coastline to ban the use of tobacco on their city beaches.

It was moved by Commissioner Perry and seconded by Commissioner Suares to receive and file the presentation from Peggy Preacely, Department of Health and Human Services, on tobacco issues for Long Beach.

Discussion:

Commissioner Rothenberg stated his approval for both policies that the Health Department is advocating. Commissioner Young asked if this presentation would be going before the Parks, Recreation and Marine Commission. Ms. Preacely responded that they would be presented these issues for that commission in the near future. Ms. Judeth Luong requested if they could be at the Executive Committee meeting to answer any further questions. Chair Turrentine stated that all Executive Committee meetings are open to the public.

The motion carried unanimously.

IV. CORRESPONDENCE

Commissioners were provided copies of the following outgoing correspondence:

Letter dated June 1, 2004 to Superintendent of Schools, Christopher Steinhauser requesting support and participation on the development of the youth Report Card.

Letters dated June 2, 2004 to:

- Deputy City Manager, Suzanne Mason – thank you and requesting a youth and children's budget matrix highlighting the budget cuts which affect youth, children and those who serve them and notification of an additional presentation to the CYC at a later date.
- Mayor Beverly O'Neill – thank you for meeting with the CYC Executive Committee on May 26th, 2004.
- Vice Mayor Frank Colonna – thank you for invitation to tape ***Heart of the City*** and request to proceed with effort to produce segment of ***Reality Check with the Youth Commission***.

V. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

a. **Anti-Bullying Legislation (April 28th, 04)** - The CYC voted at its April meeting to have staff from the Office of Congresswoman Linda Sanchez return with further information on the legislation, including the bill language before deciding upon a position. **Status:** Congresswoman Sanchez's office has yet to respond to our initial request. She had an event at McKinley School, which Commissioner Rothenberg attended. We have not seen the language of the legislation as of yet. Commissioner Meyer will be taking it to the LBUSD Board of Education to seek their position on it. The field deputy from Congresswoman Sanchez's office, Patrick Rodriguez, would like to address the CYC in August regarding this issue.

b. **Executive Committee Meetings with Mayor and City Council (April 28th, 04)** **Status:** Review the schedule of Executive Committee meetings with Mayor and City Council, which indicates commissioners who reside in the district and who may wish to participate in the meeting. No action necessary.

c. **Long Beach Youth Fund (April 28th, 04)** **Status:** We have confirmed a commitment from Home Depot for \$25,000. \$20,000 will be used for the Youth Fund to re-grant and \$5,000 will be for the Commission on Youth and Children.

d. **Youth Services NETWORK Executive Planning Committee (EPC) nomination process for recognition award – Status:** Pending

e. **Youth Leadership Institute (YLI) Workshops for CYC (May 26th, 04)** - The CYC authorized staff to contract with YLI to organize two workshops intended to advance youth/adult relationships and their impact on policy. **Status:** The CYC participated in the workshop on June 23rd from 3-5:00 p.m. prior to the regular meeting of the CYC and another at a later date to be decided.

It was moved by Commissioner Meyer and seconded by Commissioner Young to modify the original action to reflect an additional two workshops, and ratify the contract for \$2,500, with the option of utilizing one workshop at the League of Cities Conference. The motion carried unanimously.

f. **3-Year Financial Strategic Plan, Impact on youth, children and those who serve them (May 26th, 04) Status:** CYC staff sent a letter to Deputy City Manager, Suzanne Mason, to prepare a matrix that highlights the key points affecting youth and children. We have not received this matrix as of yet. Cynthia Fogg recommended that the Chair, Rebecca Turrentine, place a phone call to the City Manager's office to ask when we can expect to receive the data.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

04-12 CYC Participation in A Community Briefing, the Los Angeles County Children's Planning Council's Los Angeles Youth Engagement Taskforce (YET) Giving LA's Youth Real Voice & Real Power: A Call to Action Report.

It was moved by Commissioner Perry and seconded by Commissioner Gonzalez to authorize the participation of the CYC in the Los Angeles County Children's Planning Council Youth Engagement Task Force (YET) Community Briefing, to be held in Los Angeles on June 29th and endorse Commissioner Turrentine, Chair, and Commissioner Batton, Vice Chair, to act as the CYC's appointees to the panel and to have staff and other commissioners attend the event.

Discussion:

Cynthia Fogg distributed the updated agenda that reflects the addition of Commissioners Turrentine and Batton on the panel. A supplement was also handed out that gives information on the Long Beach Commission on Youth and Children that will be part of the Agenda packet. Chair Turrentine stated that this would be a wonderful opportunity to give publicity on the CYC and make important contacts with other agencies engaged in the same type of work. Ms. Fogg stated that we have been encouraged to bring youth from Long Beach to attend this event.

The motion carried unanimously.

04-13 CYC Participation in League of California Cities Annual Conference, to be held in Long Beach, on September 17 – 19, 2004.

It was moved by Commissioner Batton and seconded by Commissioner Soth to approve the participation of the CYC in the League of California Cities Annual Conference in September by hosting a youth conference workshop on Meaningful Youth Engagement and hosting the Friday evening Youth Mixer and establish a subcommittee composed of all youth members and a minimum of three adult members to begin planning.

Discussion:

Cynthia Fogg gave a summary of the event and its purpose. She gave a history of the conference and how in the past they had a youth track and did events accordingly. This year, the organizers have asked the help of the CYC to hold seminars and events that

are youth oriented. By holding the youth conference workshop and the youth mixer, we will be actively involved in the conference and would be able to attend for free. Commissioner Meyer asked if we would be responsible for presenting the workshop. Ms. Fogg stated that the Youth Institute would be facilitating the workshop. The District Level Youth Advisory Councils have been invited and Long Beach City Council members have shown interest in attending as well. Commissioner Batton asked if we needed to know who would be on the subcommittee at this time. Ms Fogg responded that all we need to do today is create the committee to begin the work necessary for the conference.

The motion carried unanimously.

VII. COMMENTS

• STAFF

Cynthia Fogg had no report.

Andrew Romero reported that Matt Rosen of the Youth Leadership Institute had to leave, but wanted to distribute handouts for the commission.

• COMMISSIONERS

Chair Turrentine encouraged the commission to bring ideas or suggestions to the committee as a whole. She stated that this is the time to bring forth any and all comments or concerns regarding the work of the CYC or its actions.

Commissioner McAlpin will be taken up the task of questions for a survey. She is going to go the community and bring back the results.

Commissioner Meyer stated the workshop that was held prior to this meeting was a success. He asked about the process that a youth member of the CYC would have to go through to put an item on the agenda. Chair Turrentine responded that anyone who wanted an issue brought forth to the CYC would be able to give it to CYC staff, commissioners or at the meeting to be considered for the next meeting. These items would be considered at the CYC Executive Meeting and placed on the agenda. Commissioner Meyer would like to see a mechanism for greater participation from youth on what issues should be brought up by the CYC. He would like to see the youth on the commission also take a greater role on their school campuses by getting involved in student government and any other boards that are open to students. He would also like to see a time limit to those bringing presentations to the CYC to give them an opportunity to present their information, without interference of a time constraint due to the business pending for the rest of the Agenda.

Commissioner Young informed that the Youth Council is establishing a internship program and on July 21, Mayor O'Neill is holding a kick-off function to the business community for this program. An invitation will be sent to the CYC and staff. Over 2500 youth wanted to participate in some type of internship. There will be 500-600 slots

available for internship at a business. If any members of the commissioner know of any company that has open internships available, please contact him with the details.

Commissioner Batton commented on the fun cards regarding the rewards of not smoking.

Commissioner Rothenberg would like to accommodate guest speakers and the information they provide. He also thanked the staff for their hard work

Commissioner Gonzalez stated that his e-mail address is incorrect . Andrew Romero said he would correct it.

VIII. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on **Wednesday, July 28th, at 5:00 p.m.**

IX. ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Commissioner Batton and seconded by Commissioner Gonzalez to adjourn the meeting of the Commission on Youth and Children at 6:51 p.m. The motion carried unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:51 p.m.

**This information is available in an alternative format by request
to Jane Grobaty at (562) 570-3232.
The City of Long Beach intends to provide reasonable accommodations in
accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. If a special
accommodation is desired, please call Nathan Esparza
48 hours prior to the meeting, at (562) 570-3538.**